



The American Center Ho Chi Minh City is pleased to offer you **Article Round Up**, a monthly current awareness publication of the American Center, U.S. Consulate General Public Affairs Section, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. It offers abstracts of approximately 25 current articles and policy briefs from leading American journals. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

Full Text Availability: Hyperlinks to full texts are provided for U.S. government documents. Full hard copy texts of non-U.S. government documents are available upon request to AC service subscribers only. To request full texts, please contact us at ACHCMC@STATE.GOV or Tel: 84-8-3520-4610; citing the article number(s). Current and back issues of **Article Round Up** are also available in our website at http://hochiminh.usconsulate.gov/round_up.html

APRIL 2012

SPOTLIGHT: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. "The Case for Space: Why We Should Keep Reaching for the Stars"

Neil deGrasse Tyson. Foreign Affairs, March/April 2012, 12 pages.

The author, Director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History, discusses the importance of outer space exploration for the United States in light of China's efforts to develop new exploration programs, with emphasis given to a manned mission to Mars.

2. "Gravity of the Grid"

Zeeya Merali. Discover, March 2012, 8 pages.

The author, a freelance writer, discusses the research of physicist Julian Barbour on the innermost workings of the universe which defies the work of physicist Albert Einstein, particularly Einstein's model of space, time, and gravity, as well as Austrian physicist and philosopher Ernst Mach's ideas on general relativity.

GLOBAL POPULATION

3. "Who Will Feed the Extra 2 Billion?"

Rob Bailey. The World Today, February/March 2012, 2 pages.

With the increasing population concentrated in the poorest and most food insecure countries, the author, a senior research fellow on Energy, Environment and Development Programme at Chatham House, discusses global food security and the challenges faced by the global food system, focusing on the current investment that surges into developing country agriculture.

JOURNALISM AND DIGITAL MEDIA

4. "On Facebook and Freedom"

Justin Peters. Columbia Journalism Review, November/December 2011, 5 pages.

The author, a managing editor for the *Columbia Journalism Review*, discusses the phenomena of online news being dispersed through a limited number of large technology and online social network companies such as Google, Twitter, and Facebook, focusing on the latter's control of information dissemination.

5. "Language Translation in the Internet Age"

Nancy K. Herther. Searcher, January/February 2012, 9 pages.

The author, a sociology/anthropology librarian at the University of Minnesota Libraries, discusses how the internet is engulfing all areas of communications, and language translation in particular. The possibility of real-time speech-to-speech translation is pondered as she examines some of today's current crop of translation software

U.S. ELECTIONS AND POLITICS

6. "Election 2012: An Unusually Clear Policy Choice"

Jay Cost. Policy Review, December 2011/January 2012, 11 pages.

The author, a staff writer for the *Weekly Standard*, discusses the 2012 U.S. presidential election between incumbent U.S. President Barack Obama and his challengers, focusing on its ideological nature.

7. "Vice Squad"

Eliza Gray. The New Republic, February 2, 2012, 2 pages.

The author, a writer for *The New Republic*, discusses potential Republican vice presidential candidates for the U.S. 2012 presidential election, and discusses the benefits of experience, ability to gather the Latino vote, and conservative ideologies of Republican politicians.

8. "The Youth Candidate"

Matt Kibbe. National Review, February 6, 2012, 2 pages.

The author, President and CEO of FreedomWorks, explores U.S. Representative Ron Paul's 2012 presidential candidacy and what the Republican Party can do to retain Generation Y voters who are rooting for him.

9. "The Evolution of Election Polling in the United States"

D. Sunshine Hillygus. Public Opinion Quarterly, December 2011, 20 pages.

The author, an associate professor of political science at Duke University, explores the role of polling in elections and outlines the evolution of polling as used for three different functions in U.S. presidential elections: forecasting election outcomes, understanding voter behavior, and planning campaign strategy.

THE UNITED STATES AND ASIA

10. "The Emerging Strategic Dynamic in Southeast Asia"

Marvin C. Ott. Asia Pacific Bulletin No. 144, January 12, 2012, 2 pages.

The author, an adjunct professor and visiting research scholar at Johns Hopkins University, discusses why Southeast Asia has become the arena where Chinese power and ambition confront an established U.S. military presence reinvigorated by renewed American attention to the region.

11. "US Turns Its Gaze to the Pacific"

Michael Green. The World Today, February/March 2012, 4 pages.

The author, an associate professor of international relations at Georgetown University, analyzes President Obama's Asia pivot and how the United States should resource its increasing engagement of the region.

12. "Staking Claims and Making Waves in the South China Sea: How Troubled Are the Waters?"

Alice D. Ba. Contemporary Southeast Asia, December 2011, 23 pages.

The author, an associate professor at the University of Delaware's Department of Political Science and International Relations, examines the complexity of the South China Sea dispute that is no longer just about territory but also about broader maritime rights, an evolving maritime regime, resources, and increasingly, the role of China as a rising power in East Asia vis-à-vis the United States as the status quo power.

THE UNITED STATES AND WORLD AFFAIRS

13. "Why John J. Mearsheimer Is Right*"

Robert D. Kaplan. The Atlantic, January/February 2012, 9 pages.

The author, a senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security, discusses political scientist John J. Mearsheimer's views on political realism and his doctrine of "offensive realism," which can enable the United States to avert decline and prepare for the unprecedented challenge posed by a rising China.

14. "Grand Strategy: The Four Pillars of the Future"

Charles A. Kupchan. Democracy: A Journal of Ideas, Winter 2012, 10 pages.

The author, Professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University, discusses the tectonic shifts in international affairs and in political and economic conditions within the United States and offers a progressive grand strategy for safeguarding the nation's interests with four first principles.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

15. "Revisiting the Great Depression"

Robert J. Samuelson. The Wilson Quarterly, Winter 2012, 8 pages.

Today, as we grapple with a years-long global economic downturn whose ultimate contours remain unknown, the Great Depression is increasingly relevant to the present. So, could we suffer another Depression? Are there parallels between then and now? The author, a writer for *The Washington Post*, discusses the questions.

16. "Can We Build Tomorrow's Breakthroughs?"

<u>David Rotman</u>. *Technology Review*, January/February 2012, 10 pages.

The author, a *Technology Review* editor, discusses the negative implications of problems in the U.S. manufacturing sector for the country's economy and for the outlook on innovation. Evidence on how the diminished manufacturing capabilities of the United States could adversely affect global innovation is discussed.

17. "The Looming Challenge to U.S. Competitiveness"

Michael E. Porter and Jan W. Rivkin. Harvard Business Review, March 2012, 8 pages.

The authors examine U.S. competitiveness and its economic fundamental challenge: a series of underlying structural changes that could permanently impair America's ability to maintain the living standards of its citizens.

18. "Why We Still Need the World Bank: Looking Beyond Aid"

Robert B. Zoellick. Foreign Affairs, March/April 2012, 13 pages.

President of the World Bank Group discusses the challenges and the importance of the World Bank in constructing a just international economic order and promotes economic development and multilateralism in the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis.

LIBRARY TRENDS

19. "Lessons from Steve Jobs: A Digital Framework for Tapping into Patrons' Emotions"

Helene Blowers. Computers in Libraries, March 2012, 3 pages.

The author, Director of Digital Strategy for the Columbus Metropolitan Library in Ohio, explores how to create a digital strategy framework for libraries from what she has learned from Steve Jobs.

20. "Add Rich Media to Mobile Resources, but Monitor Workflow Patterns"

Terence K. Huwe. Computers in Libraries, March 2012, 3 pages.

The author, Director of Library and Information Resources at the Institute for Research on Labor & Employment at the University of California, examines how unique collections can migrate to mobile devices and how adding such services can change workflows and even how organizations operate.

EDUCATION

21. "Bucking Cultural Norms, Asia Tries Liberal Arts"

Karin Fischer. The Chronicle of Higher Education, February 10, 2012, 14 pages.

The author, a *Chronicle* senior reporter, explores educational reforms in Asian universities which emphasize liberal arts education, focusing on ways in which secondary schools and colleges are adapting their curriculum in an effort to improve their critical thinking and teamwork skills to prepare them for future employment.

22. "The Transformative Potential of Blogs for Research in Higher Education"

<u>Jana L. Bouwma-Gearhart</u> and James L. Bess. *The Journal of Higher Education*, March/April 2012, 27 pages.

The authors explore blogging as an innovation in academic communication and collaboration with potential for overcoming the traditional limitations; and discuss the significance of blogging to the higher education research community.

23. "Voices Of Beginning Teachers: Do Paths To Preparation Make A Difference?"

<u>Alan Davis, Elena Sandoval-Lucero, Stephanie S Townsend, Shannon Kalisher, Donna M Sobel, Nancy L Shanklin</u>. *Education* (03/31/2012), 15 pages.

This study examined the experiences of beginning teachers from three preparation models; traditional, professional development school, and teacher-in-residence, regarding their perceptions of their first years of teaching. The purpose was to explore possible links between teacher candidates' preparation paths and their preparedness and intention to remain in teaching. All participants chose teaching because they wanted a meaningful career, however, only those who entered teacher-in-residence programs did so due to dissatisfaction with former careers.

24. "Outstanding High School Coaches: Philosophies, Views, and Practices"

Glenn A. Miller, Rafer Lutz, & Karen Fredenburg, *Journal of Physical Education, Recreation & Dance*, Volume 83, Number 2, February 2012, 6 pages

The goal of this study was to examine the coaching philosophies, views, and practices of outstanding high school coaches of various male and female sports across the United States. The intention was to determine whether these coaches used unique or innovative techniques or strategies that contributed to their success and, if so, whether these practices were common to coaches across a variety of sports and contexts. Ultimately, it is hoped that the knowledge gleaned from outstanding coaches might help aspiring coaches to avoid common pitfalls and reenergize coaches who may be frustrated with certain aspects of their career.

25. "Five Habits Of Highly Effective Teachers"

Neil H. Bright, The Education Digest, March 2012, Volume 77, No. 7, 4 pages.

Numerous research studies confirm that the most important factor contributing to student success is the effectiveness of instruction. Though school quality is largely determined by teacher quality, that single factor is surprisingly difficult to improve. The well-chronicled and often-exaggerated reasons for this include veteran teachers resisting change, younger instructors lacking experience and improvement undermined in both groups by tenure's protection.